

CLAIMS

1. A method for purifying a protein, which comprises a C_H2/C_H3 region, from a contaminated solution thereof by Protein A chromatography comprising:
 - (a) adsorbing the protein to Protein A immobilized on a solid phase comprising silica or glass;
 - (b) removing contaminants bound to the solid phase by washing the solid phase with a hydrophobic electrolyte solvent; and
 - (c) recovering the protein from the solid phase.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the protein is an antibody.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the protein is an immunoadhesin.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic electrolyte solvent comprises tetramethylammonium chloride (TMAC).
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic electrolyte solvent comprises tetraethylammonium chloride (TEAC).
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the solid phase is a controlled pore glass column.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the solid phase is a silicic acid column.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein the contaminants are Chinese Hamster Ovary Proteins (CHOP).
9. The method of claim 1 wherein the concentration of the hydrophobic electrolyte in the hydrophobic electrolyte solvent is in the range from about 0.1 to about 1.0 M.
10. The method of claim 1 wherein the pH of the hydrophobic electrolyte solvent is in the range from about 4 to about 8.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein step (c) comprises eluting the protein using an elution buffer having a pH in the range from about 2.0 to about 5.0.

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